

Garden Square Co-op Community Newsletter

Summer 2019



Did you know we have a Facebook group? If you're interested in joining please login to Facebook, search for Garden Square Housing Co-op, and request to join.

Visit the 'members only' section of our Co-op Website for access to all rules and policies:

www.gardensquare.org



**Cana's Coordinator
Contact Info:**

Lisa Berting

Email:

lisab@canateam.com

Phone: 604-524-8524 (x209)



Task Committee

Just a friendly reminder that tasks are to be done 2x per week (Sunday - Saturday).

Those members that have any task regarding pulling weeds (eg. sidewalks, parking lots, along backyard fences, basketball court, and grass areas, etc) need attending to.

Please remember that if you will be away for more than a few days to let either your monitor or myself know so we can find someone to do your task, unless you have made arrangements yourself.

Recreation Committee



July 20 - Kids' Carnival (4-6 pm)

August 10 - Kids' Campfire Night (evening)

August 17 - Adult Only Event - Painting with Bob Ross (evening)

Emergency Preparedness Committee



Let's Talk Safety Community Event Struck a Cord!

On the only blustery day we had in June, we erected our "easy-up canopy, and brought out 3 boxes of hot coffee and snacks. Our mission was to engage community members in a conversation about community safety and emergency preparedness. While wee tots coloured fire fighter pics, crafted edible pretend fires, and slurped away their freezies, about 30 adults perused and picked up a myriad of emergency prep and crime prevention brochures. We talked, and we talked with our neighbours about the changes happening in the neighbourhood, and our shared values of community safety.

Concerns like intravenous drug use in George McLean Park, and in and around dumpsters and underground parkades surfaced. The unsafe disposal of drug paraphernalia, and identification of where the dealing was happening were presented. We met condo owners whose buildings currently have Block Watch programs, and chatted about the possibilities of linking together multiple blocks in order to make our area less appealing to dealers and users. Although the windy conditions impacted attendance somewhat, we had seven neighbours out of 30 sign up for a community meeting to dig into these concerns more deeply with a member of the RCMP.

This small event was funded by the Vancouver Foundation's Small Neighbourhood Grants initiative, aimed at thickening ties amongst neighbours and building strong, resilient communities by breaking down the barriers to social isolation. It had specific goals such as strengthening indigenous/community connections, and youth leadership. We viewed this event as a success and are currently wondering about repeating the event, given the high interest by those who came. We would also like to canvas our membership to see if there is enough interest to restart Block Watch here at the Co-op.

I would like to thank our committee members for doing a super job on all aspects of the event, from grant writing – Gerry, through to shopping for goodies (Blanche, Katherine), set-up (Monique, Katherine and family) and clean up (Donna, Jen and team). I would also like to thank the member who came out (Anne Marie), and the youth who helped us tattoo and entertain the children: Nick, Julia and Jaden. Please contact us to get involved and to attend our upcoming committee or community meetings. You can pop by 3845 Burke Street to speak with Monique, current Committee Chair or drop us a line to mmnelson@shaw.ca or call (604) 369-4073.



From the Board



Board of Directors

As many of you already heard at the June GM, we successfully applied for CMHC's Stabilization Fund. The total amount we applied for was \$47,150 and we were approved for \$46,320. We're very excited about this and can't wait to get started on all the various components that we outlined. These include;

- Building Condition Assessment (BCA),
- Viability Analysis,
- Age Friendly Conversion Study,
- Energy Audit,
- Environmental Site Assessment & Appraisal (ESA-1)

The one item we did not get approved for was the Refinancing Study which was just over \$800 and we may decide to go ahead with this ourselves. While this grant does not actually finance any work being done as far as upgrades, renovations, etc., it will lay out how we should approach our upgrades and renovations by putting things into perspective and prioritizing how we should address our repairs. It also lays the groundwork for future grant applications and loans we may wish to apply for as some of these components we're moving ahead with now will be required. There are 2 such grants currently available that have the potential to offer us funding for projects right up to building replacements and/or additions. However, this is getting way ahead of ourselves right now and our first step is to get all these studies done by the required deadline of December 11, 2019. It will be a busy 5 months as we quickly get our RFP (Request for Proposals) out to the various vendors to propose work schedules, etc. Our first meeting is towards the end of July to get a Project Timeline developed and 1st pass of the RFP requests that will be going out. We'll make sure the membership is kept up to date as we go through all the steps required. Our next update will probably be in mid-August as we expect to be hearing back from some vendors by that point and will also have our Project Timeline developed.

If anyone would like any information on this grant or you have any questions, please feel free to contact a member of the Board or send an email to board@gardensquare.org



Craft Night

The first Tuesday of each month at 7:30

Starting August 6th

In the Common Room



Are you crafty? Bring whatever you're working on.
Do you want to learn a new skill? Chances are we have someone who can help.
Let's get together and share our talents and ideas!

Just show up
Or if you have questions
snookiemama@hotmail.com



**all are welcome, but this is intended for adults, booze may be involved...*

Maintenance Committee

Are you going away this summer???

Please notify Maintenance and provide us with a contact number where we can reach you while you're away in case there's an emergency.

All members: please check shut-offs under sinks and toilets and notify maintenance if you find any that are not working.

A big thank you to the members who helped with unit entry during our last few projects Ted, Oscar, Doug, George and Chris Smith. Without our volunteers we wouldn't be able to complete these jobs!

Pool Committee

Summer Pool Hours: All ages 9am-9pm. Adults only – 9-10pm

Pool Reminders

1. Members or associate member MUST Accompany all guest in Pool
2. Children 16 years old or older can swim alone but cannot supervise other swimmers
3. Please ensure all side doors are not left open at anytime
4. No Food allowed.

Pool Toys – The pool team is finding small pool toys and other items stuck in the filter holes of the pool please make sure you are collecting and removing all items from the pool before you leave. Leaving them in the pool causes big problems and will result in us not having pool time.



Reminders

Noise

With the nice weather approaching this is a friendly reminder to all co-op members that quiet time is at 10pm in the coop, whether it's in backyards/patios (be considerate) or kids playing outside.

Parking Lot Safety

* Kids are not permitted to play in the parking lots *

Please slow down when entering or exiting all parking lots especially the Hertford Lane parking lot as we have a blind spot.



Committee Emails

Board of Directors – board@gardensquare.org
Maintenance – maintenance@gardensquare.org
Membership – membership@gardensquare.org
Pool – pool@gardensquare.org
Recreation – recreation@gardensquare.org
Task – task@gardensquare.org